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PATENT
Docket No. 297912003900

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL"

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on May 9, 2001.

Linda J. Burleigh

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

PLETZER, et al.

Serial No.: 09/826,267

Filing Date: April 4, 2001

For: APPARATUS AND TECHNIQUE FOR
UNIFORM LOADING OF
ENDOLUMINAL PROSTHESES

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the documents are also submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ Within three months of the application filing date or before receipt of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☐ After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
 - ☐ A fee is required. A check in the amount of \$240.00 is enclosed.
 - ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided below; accordingly, no fee is believed to be due.
- ☐ After receipt of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. Accordingly, a Petition requesting consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement, an authorization to charge our deposit account, and a Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) are provided herein.

Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

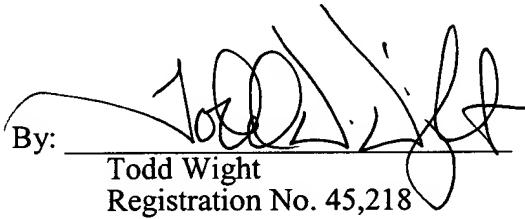
This Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this

document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing 297912003900. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: May 9, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Todd Wight
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